

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /042 W
----- 110720

R 021432Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO DIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1490
SECDEF WASHDC
USDAO ADDIS ABABA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

CONFIDENTIAL NAIROBI 8089

FOR DEP SECDEF ELLSWORTH

FOR MG CRITTENBERGER AND VDP FROM LTC ANDERSON, DLO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, KE
SUBJECT: MOD KEY PERSONNEL

REF: NAIROBI 7740

1. (C) KEY PERSONNEL IN THE KENYA MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
ARE AS FOLLOWS: THE HONORABLE MINISTER FOR DEFENSE,
JAMES S. GICHURU, M.P.; THE HONORABLE ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR DEFENSE, JAMES NJERU, M.P.; PERMANENT SECRETARY, MR.
JEREMIAH G. KIEREINI; UNDER SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP GITONGA;
ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MRS. R.A. ARUNGAH. THESE ARE
LISTED IN RANK ORDER EXCEPT THAT MR. KIEREINI, THE
PERMSEC, ACTUALLY SUPERVISES THE OPERATION OF THE
MINISTRY (SEE REFTEL) AND RECEIVES INSTRUCTIONS DIRECTLY
FROM PRESIDENT KENYATTA. DEFMIN GICHURU IS RARELY IN
HIS OFFICE, DRINKS HEAVILY, AND IS NOT ALWAYS INVOLVED
IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS. DUE TO HIS
CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA OVER THE
YEARS, GICHURU WILL PROBABLY REMAIN IN THIS OR ANOTHER
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COMFORTABLE POSITION AS LONG AS HE LIVES AND KENYATTA

REMAINS IN POWER. THE ASSISTANT MINISTER OF DEFENSE, MR. NJERU, PERFORMS NO SUBSTANTIVE FUNCTIONS. THIS IS MERELY AN HONORIFIC TITLE GIVEN HIM AS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

2. (C) BRIGADIER PETER KAKENYI IS CHIEF OF STAFF, MOD. THE POSITION TITLE "CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF" IS NO LONGER USED. KAKENYI IS A MEMBER OF THE KAMBA TRIBE AS IS THE ARMY COMMANDER, MG JACKSON K. MULINGE. THE ARMY'S DEPUTY COMMANDER, BRIGADIER LUCUS MATU, IS A KIKUYU AS IS THE AIR FORCE COMMANDER, COL. DEDAN GICHURU (NO RELATION TO DEFMIN JAMES S. GICHURU). THE NAVY COMMANDER, LT. COL. JAMES KIMARO, IS A MEMBER OF THE TAITA TRIBE FROM COAST PROVINCE.

MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, REORGANIZATIONS, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NAIROB08089
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760298-0321
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760896/aaaadglx.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NAIROBI 7740
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOD KEY PERSONNEL
TAGS: MORG, KE, (GICHURU, JAMES S)
To: DIA WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006